

LATEST NEWS AND GOSSIP OF THE DAY IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS

Past Year in Divers Branches of Sports

Baseball, Football, Pugilism, Trotting, Golf, Field and Track, Rowing, Automobiling, and Record-Breaking Performances.

The feature of the athletic year which closed yesterday was the large number of records which were broken in the different branches of sports.

Some of the athletic pastimes were, on the whole, poor, but 1904 may be considered a success from a general standpoint. Records which had stood for years were smashed in the past twelve months, and in many instances the newly established marks were so much better than those which stood before that they will in all probability remain for a generation or more of athletes before giving way to better performances.

Baseball Successful

It is doubtful if baseball ever enjoyed a more successful year than in 1904. The American and National League divided popular favor throughout the East, while in the South, Middle West, and Pacific Coast regions there were plenty of leagues to give the enthusiasts all they wanted of the national game. To illustrate the wonderful popularity of the game, it is needless to say more than that the two major leagues together drew 5,589,260 persons throughout the season. The Americans outdrew the Nationals by about 250,000.

The most notable feature of the year was the complete establishment of the American League in the East. The bitter fight which this young organization has been compelled to make against the older league and the obstacles which were thrown in its path do not need recapitulation here. The American's final victory was won in New York city, where the National had threatened and prophesied that it could never secure a foothold. Although the American placed a team in the metropolis in 1903, it had a hard fight to win popular approval, but by perseverance it did win, and with a good team in 1904 may be expected to divide New York's patronage equally with its National League rivals.

Close Race for Pennant

The greater popularity of the American League teams over their National rivals was due, in a large measure, to the closeness of the American League struggle for the pennant. During the entire last half of the season there were three and sometimes five teams racing neck and neck for the first honors. It developed in the last two weeks into a desperate fight between Boston and New York.

Not until the final day of the season when the two leaders had to play a double-header, was the issue decided. Two victories were necessary to give New York the pennant, while an even score would have sent the Boston champions to the flag for another year. Boston clinched its title to the championship by winning the first game, and the second, which resulted in a victory for New York, merely reduced the lead of Boston.

Refusal to Play

In the National League the New York team, much stronger than in 1903, gained a commanding lead in the middle of the season and won the pennant with hardly a further struggle. The New York Nationals gave their own popularity a severe blow by refusing to meet the Boston champions of the American League, for the world's championship. The members of the New York team were willing and even anxious for the series, but John T. Brush, with the business for which he has so long been noted, absolutely refused to sanction the proposed games.

So strong was the popular disapproval over his act that he consented, when too late, to play Boston in the spring for the world's championship, to the American champions sensibly refused to play the match at this time. There is now some prospect that the champions of the two leagues will play a series for the world's championship next fall. Both leagues have pronounced in favor of the scheme, but the Nationals, by demanding a 154-game schedule, have opened a convenient door of retreat in case the series is not to their liking.

Football Below Mark

The quality of football displayed during 1904 was distinctly below that of any year in the last half dozen. With the exception of one or two teams there were none that came up to the standard of the last few years. A notable exception to this assertion was the University of Pennsylvania eleven, which started with dark prospects, yet overcame great obstacles and finished with the championship team of the East. The Pennsylvanians gave the country its first distinct surprise of the season—they outplayed and defeated Harvard by the score of 11 to 0 at Cambridge.

From that time on the Quakers were invincible and finished with the remarkable record of not being once defeated nor having their goal line crossed for a touchdown. It was the first instance of a Pennsylvania team making such a record, and one of the few instances of any college team making such a good showing. Next to Pennsylvania should be ranked Yale, with Princeton, Harvard, and Dartmouth following in order. A few critics gave Yale an equal claim to first place with Pennsylvania, but the fact that this team was defeated once and scored on again should decide the question in favor of the Quakers.

Western Teams

The quality of football displayed by the Western teams was generally higher than that played by them in recent years. The championship of that section was divided between Michigan and Minnesota, neither of which sustained a defeat during the season. The fact that the two did not meet leaves the championship question an open one.

The All-American team selected by Walter Camp follows:

End, Shevlin, Yale; tackle, Conney, Princeton; guard, Pieckarski, Pennsylvania; center, Tipton, West Point; guard, Kinney, Yale; tackle, Hogan, Yale; end, Eckersall, Chicago; quarter, Stevenson, Pennsylvania; half, Hurley, Harvard; half, Weston, Michigan; full-back, Smith, Pennsylvania.

Georgetown had one of the most successful seasons in her history. The team suffered but one beating, and that at the hands of Princeton, 10 to 0. By decisively defeating Carolina the Blue

and Gray asserted her right to the supremacy in the South.

Good Fights Scarce

The world of pugilism was particularly barren of notable fights. Jeffries is still the undefeated heavyweight champion. For a time it was thought that Jack Munroe, who claimed the credit for having knocked Jeffries down in an exhibition bout at Butte, Mont., the year before, had a chance to wrest the laurels from the Californian. He finally got his opportunity to meet Jeffries in the ring, but it took the boiler-maker just one round to dispose of the Montana man. As a matter of fact, the fight merely emphasized the great superiority of Jeffries and led people to wonder if any man lives who could take the measure of the champion.

Fake fights were the principal stock in trade of the middleweights. In the light and featherweight classes conditions were different, and many good bouts were fought, which resulted in the transfer of two championships. In the featherweight class Jimmy Britt wrested the laurels from Young Corbett after a twenty-round bout, in which neither man had much the better of his opponent, but the referee awarded the decision to Britt, who since that time has declined for one reason or another to fight the man over whom he received the decision.

Gans Won on Foul

Although Britt qualified as an alleged featherweight when he fought Corbett's next battle, which was with Joe Young Corbett, he was for the world's lightweight championship. Gans won the fight on a foul by Britt.

Young Corbett disappointed his friends on November 23, when he lost badly to Battling Nelson in a ten-round bout. Nelson was next matched to meet Britt, but he won, though on a decision by the referee.

The third championship to change hands among the little fellows was the bantamweight title. Frankie Neil, after winning the American title from Forbes, went to England and lost the championship to Bowker, an Englishman, who holds it.

Trotting Records Stand

The fatal assault which was promised on the trotting record of 1903 did not take place. Nineteen hundred and three was, indeed, the most remarkable year the trotters have known, and many devoted to the sport were certain that such marvelous performers as Lou Dillon and Major Delmar would lower their records very materially in 1904. But they failed to do it. Major Delmar made a better showing than Lou Dillon. In explanation of Lou Dillon's failure to duplicate his 1903 performance it should be said that she was troubled with a cold part of the year, and when she finally struck her gait the weather was not conducive to record-breaking performances. The pacers did slightly better than the trotters, and Dan Patch in particular, the holder of the world's mile pacing record, lowered his already phenomenal mark to 1:56 flat.

Notable Golf Year

The past year has, indeed, been a notable one for the American golf player. Walter J. Travis, the holder of many American titles, was certain that such marvelous performers as Lou Dillon and Major Delmar would lower their records very materially in 1904. But they failed to do it. Major Delmar made a better showing than Lou Dillon. In explanation of Lou Dillon's failure to duplicate his 1903 performance it should be said that she was troubled with a cold part of the year, and when she finally struck her gait the weather was not conducive to record-breaking performances. The pacers did slightly better than the trotters, and Dan Patch in particular, the holder of the world's mile pacing record, lowered his already phenomenal mark to 1:56 flat.

But later in the year Travis himself was defeated in the first of a series of upsets to golf champions, which, however, served more to show the nearly equal strength of a great many American players than the uncertainty of the season. In the national amateur championship at Garden City, Travis proved a disappointment by losing to Ormiston, who, in turn, succumbed to Chandler Egan, the man who won the championship. Following this Egan was defeated in the semi-final championship by White, of Harvard, and in the Olympic tournament by Lyons, a Canadian. The woman's national championship was won by Miss Georgianna Bishop, of Hartford, Conn., but the closeness of her victory was shown by her defeat at the hands of Miss Pauline Mackey, of Boston, the week following.

On Field and Track

Although there were few world records broken in the domain of track and field athletics in America, the year of 1904 was a notable one, and will rank with the best in the high standard of performance it saw.

Of world records only two fell in the United States, but the quality of other performances was universally higher than any other year in the history of American athletics. The two men who succeeded in making new marks were Ralph Rose, of the University of Michigan, and Ward McManahan, of Yale. Rose heaved the sixteen-pound shot a distance of 48 feet 7½ inches at the Olympic games of the St. Louis Exposition in August, and thereby broke not only his own best figure but those of all his rivals. Dennis Horgan, the former title-holder of Ireland, was credited later with putting the shot 48 feet 10 inches, but this record has not yet been allowed.

McManahan showed himself to be the most notable pole vaulter the country has seen in recent years, when at the Princeton-Yale dual meet he vaulted 12 feet 12 inches, making a new world record. Dole, of Leland Stanford University, California, is credited with a leap of 22 feet and 22-100 inches, but it was never allowed.

Shrub's Fine Work

Notable as were these two performances, they are eclipsed by the more remarkable work of Alfred Shrub, of the South London Harriers, who, with almost no visible effort, lowered all the amateur and professional world records

E. LAWRENCE PHILLIPS



ANNOUNCER AT LEADING ATHLETIC EVENTS IN THIS VICINITY.

from two miles up to ten. Shrub has been running for the last five years, but in his first year not only did nothing noteworthy but gave little promise of going so. He struck his gait, however, in 1903, and increased it in 1904.

Of all his performances those for which he deserves the greatest praise were made at Glasgow during the early part of July, when in the two and four mile hand races he broke ten amateur and two professional world records.

Running the two miles first, Shrub set a new mark of 9 minutes 9.5 seconds, a most remarkable performance. But phenomenal as this run was, he eclipsed it the day following by running the hard four miles in 19 minutes 22.5 seconds. Not only was this four miles run in world record time, but, having been made on the day following another world record in the two miles, one cannot help but marvel at the endurance the Englishman possesses. Undoubtedly Shrub has proven himself to be the greatest distance performer the country has ever seen.

On Franklin Field

The American intercollegiate championships passed off this year with few notable achievements. For the first time in the history of the association the meeting was held outside of New York, this time on Franklin Field, Philadelphia. Not only were the games more largely attended than was ever the case in New York, but they were run off with greater dispatch and greater enjoyment to the public.

Yale won the meet, with Harvard second and Pennsylvania third. Taylor, of Pennsylvania, had the honor of breaking the only intercollegiate record which was demolished. In the quarter-mile Taylor lowered the record held by Maxey Long, of Columbia, from 42.5 seconds to 41.5 seconds. Had Taylor been pushed he could undoubtedly have gotten inside the 40-second mark, and with another year of experience on the track he is sure to get very close to the world's record. At the same meeting Parsons, of Yale, equaled the intercollegiate half-mile record of 1:56.4-5. Several records were broken at the Western intercollegiate championships, but none of them approached the records of the Eastern men.

Olympic Championships

The most notable amateur meeting of the year was the Olympic championships at St. Louis the latter part of August. Only one world record was broken, that being the shot-put by Rose, of Michigan. Many Olympic records were broken in the other events, but as a rule these figures were nothing extraordinary. In the majority of cases being below the best marks of the college men.

The outdoor athletic season closed with the intercollegiate cross-country run at New York, on November 22. This, as usual, was won by Cornell. Pennsylvania was second, Yale third, Harvard fourth, and Columbia, as expected, last. Capt. E. T. Newman, of Cornell, won the individual honors, lowering the record of Schutt, made the previous year.

Intercollegiate Regatta

As usual, intercollegiate rowing was the feature of this sport. The usual two regattas were held in the East, the one at Poughkeepsie, between Pennsylvania, Cornell, Columbia, Syracuse, Wisconsin, and Georgetown, the other at New London, between Harvard and Yale. The Poughkeepsie regatta developed into one of the biggest surprises that rowing has known for many years, because Syracuse, never thought to have a chance with the other colleges, won the varsity and freshman races with ease. Cornell being second in both instances.

At New London Yale continued her unbroken series of victories over Harvard and won both the varsity and freshman eight-oared races. The Crimson captured the four-oared event, through a fluke, as the Yale oarsmen breaking an oarlock when their crew was leading Harvard by a good eight lengths.

Outside of the college races the most important regatta of the year was the National and Olympic regattas, which were held in conjunction at the St. Louis Exposition in July. The Vesper eight-oared crew, of Philadelphia, won the principal event, which carried with it the world championship. Titus, the former champion in singles, won back his laurels in the People's Day regatta on the Schuylkill. Louis Scholtes, a Canadian, won the Diamond Sculls at Henley, England, on Decoration Day on the Harlem, the Potomac Club won the senior eight-oared event, which was

one of the best victories of a Red and White aggregation.

Automobiling Popular

The success of the various national and international meets is sufficient proof that the automobile has won its way with the sport-loving people of America.

The Vanderbilt races, held on Long Island, October 8, was probably the greatest meet of recent years, not even excepting the Gordon Bennett cup race, held in Europe. The race was run over a course of a little more than 300 miles and was won by Heath, an American, driving a French car for a French concern. After him came Albert Clement, in a Clement-Bayard car. An American, H. H. Lytle, was third, in a Pope Toledo.

Barney Oldfield, the intrepid American driver, after once leaving the track, when two men were killed at St. Louis by his car, returned, and since then his path has been strewn with nearly every world record from one to fifty miles.

Tennis Rather Poor

The tennis of 1904 was hardly up to expectations, due, in a measure, to the failure of the Deberry brothers, of England, to defend their title to the American championships at Newport in August. In their absence Holcombe Ward won the championship in singles, and Ward and Beals Wright the championship in doubles.

The feature of the year, however, was the remarkable play of Miss May Sutton, a seventeen-year-old girl, from California, who, after clearing up all the champions on the Pacific Coast, came to Philadelphia, and, without losing more than a single game in any one set, wrested the national women's championship from Miss Bessie Moore in a most decisive fashion.

The intercollegiate championships were held at Haverford, and in the doubles Behr and Bodman, of Yale, won. In the singles Robert LeRoy, of Columbia University, carried off the honors after a desperate struggle with E. B. Dewhurst, of the University of Pennsylvania.

The District championships resulted in a victory for Conrad B. Doyle.

REASON COLUMBIA AVOIDED MICHIGAN

The manner in which Columbia sidestepped Michigan this year and the reason why the other big universities of the East will not give dates to Westerners next year has furnished the following, taken from the "New York Times": "The question of why the Eastern colleges refuse to play football with Michigan and some other large Western institutions was effectively settled the other night by Max Hardman, a Westerner in attendance at the Columbia Law School, who was dining with a number of Columbia men.

You Eastern chaps are like a little Irish tailor of whom I once heard. He was the proud possessor of an enormous nerve, and the only thing that kept him from being annihilated was that at crucial moments his discretion mastered his valor.

One morning Mrs. Murphy, a customer, entered the shop, and finding him busily engaged with pencil and paper, asked him what he was doing.

"O'm mahn' a list av m'n on this block who O' kin lick," said he, pompously.

"Have yez got Murphy's name down?" asked she.

"Murphy's heads me list," was the reply.

Mrs. Murphy hurried home to her lord and master with the news, and he came down to the shop with fire in his eye.

"Me woman tells me that y'e ar makin' a memorial tablet av the m'n that yez kin lick, and that yez've got me down at the head of it. Is that true?" said the irate Murphy.

"Shure an' it's true. Phwat of it?" returned the other.

"You good-for-nothing little grasshopper, I could commit suicide on yez wid me little finger. I could wipe up de flure wid yez wid me hand tied!"

"Are you shure about that?" asked the tailor.

"Shure I'm shure about it."

"Well, then," sighed the knight of the shears, regretfully, "I'll scratch ye off the list!"

The trading of Fraser by Philadelphia to Boston put an end to the rumor that Chic was to manage and captain the team representing Akron, Iowa. The story looked flimsy when it first appeared, as there are in Akron, all told, only 1,009 souls.

Carroll Institute's Long Run Tomorrow

Athletes Ready for Five-Mile Cross-Country Event—Management Confident of Success—Lorando and Connor.

With the forwarding of the entries for the Carroll Institute cross-country run, to be held tomorrow, to the official handicapper of the South Atlantic Association, John P. Baer, for the determination of the various allotments of time to the contestants, the preliminary details were completed, and all that now remains to insure the success of the run is favorable weather.

The entries have been all that could be looked for, considering the novelty of this sport in the city, and the fact that the contestants, on the whole, are deemed advisable to send the men over the ditches and plowed fields, on their journey, but as the athletes of this city are not accustomed to this sort of strenuous running, these obstacles had to be eliminated. The course that has been selected offers no hardships except a few hills, and is primarily designed to test the endurance and grit of the men.

Many Distance Men

The list of long-distance men which has been gathered for this event is well worth commendation. Little Connor, who won the cross-country run given for the high schools last year, will be there, and if reports coming from his supporters mean anything, he will be in at the running. He is a good, gritty chap, and is expected to give a good account of himself. He is the representative of the Central High School.

Technical High School has three entries—Rosemond, Jannus, and Ellisworth, and with the instruction that Director Foley usually gives his athletes there will be some pretty teamwork displayed by these youngsters should they get near each other on the time allowance.

Soldier Entry

Washington Barracks sends a good long-distance runner in the person of Vernon A. Uphergrove, who made a good record over a six-mile course in Wisconsin. This is an awakening for the Washington Barracks men, and a promise to give the "comrade luster" support. The six-mile record which Uphergrove made was while he was at the high school at Wisconsin, and so good was his jaunt that he beat his fellow-students by a good margin. He has been doing from three miles upward in his practice jog.

Lorando, of Georgetown, and Carroll Institute, who, it was at first feared, would not be able to compete

after his hard fight against Lightbody in the Pastime Athletic Club games last night, has promised to be back for the sound of the starter's pistol at Carroll Institute. He is very fond of the distance, and in England, where he got his early training in the long distance going, negotiated many a mile over turf and ditch. He is good timber cropper and will bear close watching.

In Good Shape

W. D. Gill is almost as well known to be a long distance performer as either Lorando or Connor. He is entered from the Crell Rifles.

Robey, the captain of the Institute track team, has not had much experience as a long distance performer, but the way in which he has been going over the nightly spins is a good indicator of his strength in this line, as well as the quarter mile.

George Washington University sends in the name of E. J. Horgan. Tierney, of the Institute, is a new comer, but has fine staying power. Kelly will take a hard beating. Malloy will, if he keeps up his good record, be in the finish. Hollander and Kerr have both been well up on every run. Herd is in good shape. Tilghman, unfortunately, at the last minute, has been obliged to withdraw on account of an injury sustained to one of his legs in a jog last week. Watson's entry will be in late, but as he would probably be the scratch man, any way it does not matter.

The Officials

The officials are six inspectors, who will be stationed along the route to check off the men as they pass; three timers, Captain Edwards, of the National Guard; Lieutenant Peake, of the Engineer Corps, U. S. A., and Mr. Bryan, University of Pennsylvania, and three judges, William F. Le Mat, Mr. Bowie, and Mr. McKinney. Dr. Kelly, of the Institute, will start the race. A physician will examine all contestants. Another letter was received from Dr. William Grant, of the registration board, wishing all sorts of success and a hope that a run of this sort may be a permanent fixture. He realizes that there is good quality in the Washington athletes, and believes that runs of this character are just what are needed. He congratulates the Institute on having the honor of being the first to apply to his registration board for a sanction for the year of 1905, and regards it as a good omen for the future of Carroll Institute.

PENNSYLVANIA WON CHESS TOURNAMENT

Defeated Cornell for Championship With Brown Third—Rice Trophy for Quakers—Officers Elected.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The fourth and final round of the triangular college chess league tournament was contested here this afternoon when after a close finish, L. S. Johnston and M. B. Kirkpatrick, the two representatives of the University of Pennsylvania, succeeded in capturing the Rice Trophy for their college with a final total of five games won to three lost as against four and a half won to three and a half lost, scored by Cornell, previous holder of the championship trophy. Brown finished last with two and a half points. The games in the final rounds resulted as follows:

Darling, Cornell, drew with Burton, Brown, 54 moves.

Second board, Kirkpatrick, Pennsylvania, drew with Van Arsdale, Brown, 40 moves.

Third board, Mitchell, Cornell, won from Johnston, Pennsylvania.

At a meeting of the players the following officers were elected:

President—Isaac L. Rice; vice president, M. B. Kirkpatrick; secretary, Herman Helms.

The next tournament will be held next December in this city.

To date six matches have been contested and of these Cornell won four and Pennsylvania two.

Bob Fitzsimmons a short time ago presented President Roosevelt with a silver horseshoe on a highly polished base. The President seemed greatly pleased with the gift and has written to Ruby Rob inviting him to visit the White House the next time he comes to Washington. Fitz is thinking seriously of accepting the invitation and making a short trip to this city to meet the President.

Blue Grass State sports have reorganized the old Kentucky Racing Association and are preparing to revive trotting under the auspices of the club. The association was first organized in 1827, and with the exception of the interim caused by the civil war annual meetings were held until 1897, when they fell through. The men who have taken charge of the reorganization are prominent breeders of Kentucky and have plenty of good backing in their undertaking.

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